Capt. John Rogers

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THE TABLET.——No. CVII.

"Wrong headed blockheads when they help intend,
Plague while they ſerve, and hurt while they befriend."

I AM of the opinion that people ſuſtain more inconvenience thro the ignorance and folly, than they do thro the malice or treachery of thoſe with whom they are concerned. It is much eaſier to counterwork the actions of bad men, than of weak ones. Knaves may be reſtrained by a variety of checks, from doing the miſchief which they meditate, and may be puniſhed for the crimes they actually commit. The whole world is, as it were, armed againſt their enormities. But there can be no effectual precaution againſt the miſmanagement of fools. Their miſtakes indicate no perverſeneſs of heart, and can neither deſerve puniſhment or excite reſentment. How can we reproach a man when he meant us no harm? How can we guard againſt his errors, when he has not diſcernment to eſcape them himſelf?

It too often happens, that we impute miſcarriages to the bad intentions of thoſe we employ. We do not ſo readily ſuſpect that men judge or calculate wrong, as that they intend wrong. But the fact is otherwiſe; and it will be found, upon a critical examination, that error of judgment is the main ſource of public as well as private diſorders. There is hardly a more common character in ſociety than that of a marplot. This ſort of people are the more dangerous, as they ſeldom attempt to do a good turn, which does not terminate in a real diſadvantage. Their zeal to ſerve us makes us accept of their ſervices; and when they have committed one miſtake, they are ſo ſorry for it, that we let them run into more blunders to atone for what are paſt.

A marplot is moſt vexatious in public tranſactions; becauſe it then is more in his power to betray ſtupidity without incurring contempt, and propagate error without riſquing detection. In public affairs there is a great diverſity of opinion; and in queſtions of a ſpeculative nature, declaimers of folly ſcreen their impotency under profeſſions of patriotiſm. The appearance of patriotic zeal is too faſcinating not to give popularity to the man who diſcovers it. Thus it happens that weak men, who are a perpetual marplot upon the plans of the prudent and knowing, inſinuate themſelves into the public confidence. This is an inconvenience that all countries and ages have experienced. There is no poſſible remedy againſt it. People will liſten to thoſe whom they ſuppoſe to be their friends; and it is peculiarly the character of a marplot to be officious in offering his good ſervices. He muſt be employed becauſe he means well, and he will do hurt, becauſe he has not diſcernment enough to do good. It would be a fortunate circumſtance in the management of public affairs, if mankind looked more to the qualifications of thoſe to whom they committed their concerns. If men have underſtanding they will ſeek the public proſperity, becauſe it is their intereſt to do it; but if they are deſtitute of capacity they will counteract the public weal, becauſe they can never know in what it conſiſts. A wrong headed man, however honeſt he may be, cannot be ſuppoſed to concert proper meaſures, ſince it is obvious that reaſon and propriety can never aſſimilate with his character. Whatever he ſuggeſts will be tinged with the quality of the fountain, from which it flows. Wiſe men only can conceive wiſe inſtitutions.

POLITICIANS.

NO country, perhaps, in the habitable globe, contains ſo many government AMENDERS and declaimers on the ſubject of Conſtitutions, as the United States.—Every man ſeems to think himſelf born a Legiſlator, and is generally ſo tenacious of his own darling ſentiment, that unleſs it is adopted, he is continually complaining. But this TRUTH, advanced by the SOLON of our country, ought to be known:—That the experience of the world hath ſhewn, that a perſon "may defend the principles of liberty, and the rights of mankind with great abilities, and yet after all, when called upon to propoſe a plan of Legiſlation, he may aſtoniſh the world with a ſignal abſurdity.

AGRICULTURE.

THE great and important ſubject of agriculture, having been recommended to the notice of the national Legiſlature, by the Preſident of the United States; it will doubtleſs arreſt their attention—and is there any thing of more conſequence to the proſperity, wealth and independence of the United States? The preſent appears to be the criſis when the cultivators of the ſoil, ſhould receive the tokens of Legiſlative patronage.---Manufactures are the offspring of agriculture---and muſt form the baſis of all profitable ſpeculation.

PROSPECT OF *NORTH-BRITAIN.*

By DR. MITCHILL.*

"——THE Scotch are very proud of their Lock-Lomond. And truly the lake with its contained iſlands, and neighboring mountains, exhibits a mingled ſcene of beauty and ſublimity. From the ſummit of the lofty Ben-Lomond, there is the grandeſt proſpects I ever enjoyed. Fortunately, when I was on it the weather was ſo ſerene and the atmoſphere ſo free from clouds, that one of my companions who had aſcended the mountain more than a dozen times, ſaid he had never had ſo fair a view of the ſurrounding objects. Southward the lake with its twenty iſlands, the village of Luſs, the manſions of Camſtraddon and Bonhill, and beyond Smollet's ſumptuous monument beſide the river Leven, the town and caſtle of Dunbarton and the Firth of Clyde appeared beautifully in view; further than theſe, port Glaſgow, Greenock, the iſlands of Bute and Arran and the Craig of Ailſa, together with a part of Ayre-Shire and the Atlantic Ocean, lay fairly diſplayed. Weſtward, beſide Lock-Long and Lock Fyne, ſeveral of the Hebrides were viſible, and in particular the heights of Iſla, the Paps of Jura and the mountains of Mull could be clearly diſcerned. Northward the ſtupendous Highlands, extending in the Shires of Perth, Breadalbaine and Argyle, away toward Lochaber and Inverneſs, as far as the eye could comprehend, afforded a ſight of rude grandeur and wild ſublimity, that delighted beyond deſcription. Eaſtward, Lock-Ard, Enrick-water, Lock-Law, the city and caſtle of Stirling, the hills of Fyfe-Shire, the river Forth and the arm of the German Sea were plainly ſeen; and had there not been a hazy portion of air a little toward the South, it was judged that the caſtle of Edinburg, Salſbury Craig, the Calton and Pentland hills, and Arthur's ſeat might have been deſcried."

* This gentleman is preparing a ſet of Experiments to try the qualities of the different kinds of timber, and of different preſervative varniſhes, in reſiſting the ſalt-water pipe-worm. His buſt has been inſcribed with the following verſe, compoſed, as is thought by the Roman NAUTIUS—

Intima Naturæ nitidæ penetralia pandit.

FOR THE GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES.

"Admiration and acquaintance are incompatible."

I Would queſtion the reality of this, for the honor of our ſpecies, when taken literally—and I am induced to think it will not hold good as a general truth, even with the neceſſary exceptions, which in all general rules are admited. If human nature admits not of perfection, yet it is not ſo wholly depraved as to exclude both from ſentiment and conduct, every thing noble and meritorious. Any thing intrinſically excellent inſpires us with admiration—and tho there are comparatively few perſons poſſeſſing the eſſentials for this, we are not in conſequence juſtifiable in aſſerting that none have them. It requires a conſiderable proportion, no doubt, of amiable qualities to counter-balance the numerous propenſities to folly, and the many actions which deſerve the epithet of littleneſs. Still he who admits the above poſition as ſufficiently evident, holds a doctrine extremely ſelf-debaſing. For depreciate the ſuppoſed excellence only of human nature, and you eventually humble that deſire of eminence of which few, very few are wholly diveſted. Who would make vigorous exertions to acquire what is beyond the ſphere of poſſibility?

Tho I cannot boaſt of long experience in the ways of the world—yet what I have had is convincive of the contrary. If the greater part of mankind are void of properties that can ſtand the ſcrutiny of acquaintance without deſtroying admiration, yet I firmly believe there is a number bearing a proportional relation to the whole maſs of people as that of perſons eminent in Arts and Sciences to thoſe unſkilled therein. Experimental knowledge is of ſuperior influence in moſt inſtances. It can ſcarcely be queſtioned that Collegiate acquaintances are of the higheſt intimacy and give a great opportunity for diſcovering not only the abilities, but alſo the amiable qualities of the mind. Perhaps more ſo than moſt other ſituations. The diſpoſition is then formed for communicativeneſs, being untaught in the ways of deception and unſoured by diſappointment—I have been on intimate acquaintance with ſome, whoſe excellence, far from vaniſhing, was ſuch as to encreaſe my admiration. This inclines me to believe intimacy the touchſtone by which we may diſtinguiſh real from apparent merit. Nor would I apprehend an enquiry after a perſon poſſeſſed of real and intrinſic excellence, equally romantic with reſearches after the philoſopher's ſtone, or attempts to balloon it to *Luna*. The inculcation of this doctrine is alſo deſtructive of conſiderable happineſs as it tends greatly to leſſen the felicity of ſocial connections. A propenſity for admiration is implanted in every breaſt—Who would riſque the loſs of this by aſſociating intimately with thoſe he regarded? If fully convinced it would deſtroy or even leſſen their reciprocal good opinion?

The married ſtate, particularly when hearts congenial are united, is perhaps the ſituation where the moſt complete happineſs exiſts—and mutual love can (I would fain hope) ſubſiſt in this State where the cloſeſt intimacy muſt neceſſarily be formed. What is *love*, but admiration raiſed to its higheſt pitch—and when it ariſes from real excellence, it can ſtand the teſt of acquaintance.

Upon the whole we may ſafely conclude that the idea in the motto is not ſtrictly true, and that admiration and acquaintance are not incompatible.

Our ideas of excellence are only comparative, originating from what we find in human nature—if it did not exiſt there, from whence is the idea derived? ARISTIDES.

CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

TUESDAY, MARCH 30.

The propoſition for aſſuming the ſtate debts under conſideration.

(*Mr.* BLAND——CONTINUED.)

VIRGINIA had a number of marine officers and ſailors which were employed in her ſtate veſſels; theſe had alſo been put on the liſt of her public creditors, and had received certificates for pay and depreciation. In ſhort her military debt for *continental purpoſes* amounted to three millions three hundred thouſand dollars principal, on which ſhe had regularly paid an intereſt in ſpecie annually of ſix per cent. This fund aroſe from arrangements in her revenue, of which ſhe had then the entire poſſeſſion. Her impoſt was pledged for the payment of this intereſt, and was competent thereto; has ſhe not given up to the continent, to the general government this rich ſource of revenue—and this debt, or others of a like nature is now charged on her lands and negroes. From the commencement of the war, great, nay enormous emigrations have taken place and ſtill continue. Kentucky is ſaid to contain fifty or ſixty thouſand ſouls, nine-tenths of which have emigrated from Virginia. It is ſaid, and I believe with truth, that more than one half of Georgia is peopled from Virginia by recent emigrations. The ſtate of Franklin, the ceſſion of which this houſe has juſt accepted, has been alſo chiefly peopled from Virginia, and is ſaid to contain more than twenty thouſand people. Large numbers have emigrated to other ſtates, to avoid either being called into ſervice, to obtain lands on eaſy terms, or to avoid taxation. What is now to be the ſituation of Virginia? The remaining citizens are to pay (unleſs the aſſumption takes place) the whole debt, while ſhe, who has been termed the elder of the ſtates, and not improperly may be termed the mother of thoſe juſt mentioned, may not unaptly be compared to the pelican, who is repreſented as feeding her young with her life's blood, i. e. with her citizens. And how are theſe citizens employed? Why, in Georgia, helping to pay their ſtate debt, and in Kentucky and Franklin, hitherto out of the reach of taxation, or unable to contribute any thing towards this purpoſe from their own expoſed ſituation, being engaged in their own defence ever ſince the war with Great-Britain.

Virginia may on this occaſion be divided into two parts, independent of Kentucky; that from the ſea coaſt to about the heart of the ſtate, through which the army marched, both friends and enemies, as one part; and that near and beyond the mountains, as another. The firſt was ſubject to have their houſes and towns burnt by the enemy, their plantations laid waſte, and their negroes carried off. 'Tis beyond all doubt, that not leſs than 7000 of theſe the beſt of our laborers were carried off by the enemy, or left their maſters; thoſe inhabitants who ſuffered this loſs are alſo the greateſt creditors to the ſtate and the United States, having loaned money, had their property impreſſed for the uſe of their armies, or contributed voluntarily to their ſupport. By emigration, vaſt quantities of vacant land belonging to the emigrants have been brought to market, ſo that the lands in all parts of the ſtate have fallen perhaps 60 per cent. in value; and theſe lands thus depreciated, are now loaded with a heavy tax to pay this continental-ſtate debt. The burthen has become almoſt intolerable, and this burthen is aggravated by the lands being depopulated of their laboring hands, which have been either taken off by the enemy, or by emigration.

I am not ſurprized (continued Mr. Bland) that Georgia has declared herſelf againſt the aſſumption, or that the members even from Virginia, who came from far weſt ſhould do ſo; but I own I am a little ſurprized that North Carolina ſhould have taken up that opinion, eſpecially as what has been ſaid of Virginia with reſpect to emigrations applies in a certain degree to her caſe alſo. In ſhort, when Virginia contracted her debt ſhe had reaſon to think her reſources were adequate to the payment, but now thoſe reſources are gone, ſhe has not only parted with her revenue from impoſt and tonnage, but ſhe has parted with her immenſe territory North-Weſt of the Ohio. This ſir, is deemed a reſpectable fund for the diſcharge of the continental debt. What proportion of this fund will fall to her ſhare as a ſtate? She will partake of it exactly as her citizens are creditors of the United States; and I believe it may be ſafely aſſerted, that the military debt which ſhe has taken on herſelf as a temporary meaſure recommended by Congreſs out of the queſtion, her citizens will be found as lenders to the continent or holders of continental ſecurities, not more than upon a par with ſome of the ſmalleſt ſtates in the union. [Mr. Bland here ſtated the amount of the ſtate debts of Virginia; four-fifths of which if not nine-tenths might juſtly be placed to the account of the United States.]

Some gentlemen are very deſirous to ſever the funding of the debt of the United States from that of the ſtates, though both of them have been incurred for the ſame purpoſes, viz. the payment

of the army and the common defence againſt the common enemy; it would be in my opinion like the ſeparating man and wife, or like amputating limbs from the body; I cannot ſee where the ſound part ends, and the gangrene, which is to be cut off, begins.

Mr. Bland hoped he had ſatisfied his colleagues and the houſe that his vote on this occaſion was not the effect of caprice or ſingularity, but was founded on principle, both as it related to the general good and the good of the ſtate from whence he came, and that he would be juſtified in voting that the aſſumption of the ſtate debts, ſo far as it went to that incurred during the war for the general defence, ſhould take place. He ſaid he diſliked long ſpeeches, and ſhould not have troubled the houſe on this occaſion ſo long had he not been fully convinced in his own mind and conceived himſelf called upfrom the peculiar predicament he ſtood in,in differing from all his colleagues in opinion on a matter of ſo much moment to the union and to the ſtate of Virginia.

Mr. Burke ſaid he had a few obſervations to offer to the committee, in order to ſatisfy ſome gentlemen whoſe principal objections to the aſſumption of the State debts were the S. C. frigate and the Penobſcot expedition; theſe two objections remaining to be moved away, it ſeems, as a ſort of rubbiſh, before we can lay the foundation. When the ſubject of the State debts was formerly before the committee of the whole, Mr. Burke was ſorry he omitted to enter into the hiſtory of the tranſactions relating to the frigate, not thinking that gentlemen would avail themſelves of that affair to embarraſs the meaſure of aſſumption. He begged the indulgence of the committee while he gave a detail of it, as he had no doubt of giving ſuch a ſatisfactory account as would convince the committee that the motives and reaſons of that buſineſs flowed from pure patriotic principles, and principles connected with the general intereſts of the Union. There is not a gentleman on the floor who is a ſtranger to the feeble ſituation of our State, when we entered into the war to oppoſe the Britiſh power: We were not only without money, without an army of military ſtores, but we were few in number, and we were likely to be entangled with our domeſtics in caſe the enemy invaded us. When the Britiſh fleet and army arrived on our coaſts in 1776,ſo ſmall was our quantity of powder that we could not truſt but a very little part of it in Fort-Moultrie, the firſt poſt in front of the enemy—a precaution very fortunate to them, for had the garriſon had a ſufficiency of powder, through that auſpicious day, the Britiſh ſhips muſt have left their bones in the channel. And as to the article of lead, it is a fact which has never been related, that the citizens of Charleſton were called on, and did actually furniſh the lead uſed in their window-ſhutters: ſuch was the deſperate ſituation for want of ſtores. As to ſmall arms, thoſe of the regular troops were generally indifferent, and the militia were miſerably armed. The adminiſtration, however, made every effort, in the years 1776 and 1777, and ſpared no expence to obtain thoſe articles of defence from Europe and the Weſt-Indies: but ſo guarded and lined were our coaſts with Britiſh cruizers, that our attempts often proved vain; many veſſels with thoſe articles on board were captured, often in ſight of the town, and the few eſcaping had to run the gauntlet through the enemy's fires. In the latter end of 1777 (I think it was) a Mr. Galvan prevailed on our government to employ him to go to France for arms: he went accordingly, charged with this commiſſion, and with produce to purchaſe them. He returned with thoſe arms. Whether he was impoſed on in the contract, or not, we could not tell; but moſt of them burſt in proving them. The whole importation was not, I believe, worth one farthing for ſubſtantial uſe.

In 1778 our circumſtances, for want of the means of defending ourſelves, were truly wretched, and we had rumours and reaſon to expect that our ſituation would again invite the enemy to invade us. The means of procuring military ſtores and cloathing for our ſtanding forces, or for the militia when called out, was an object of ſuch magnitude as to occupy the attention of the patriots of that country, and finally the mind of the legiſlature, who, taking into conſideration the want of all kinds of neceſſaries requiſite for our ſituation, viewing the unfortunate diſappointments met with by our ſmall veſſels falling into the hands of the enemy's cruiſing frigates: our legiſlature, in that year, reſolved upon a bold enterpriſing attempt to furniſh the country with ſupplies. This attempt was to purchaſe in Europe, and equip for ſea, three frigates, whoſe united efforts might give us a greater chance of their reaching our coaſts in ſafety. It was an arduous undertaking; but it was ſuch a one as was worthy of gallant men, contending for liberty. And here I have to make one obſervation reſpecting the State I belong to—I have not the honor of being a native of it, ſo that I ſhall not be charged with vanity or oſtentation—Such was the native generoſity of that people, that they thought no expence too great; ſuch their gallantry and ſpirit of enterprize, that though comparatively few in number, yet they deemed no danger or undertaking too arduous for them in the common cauſe. For the buſineſs of the frigates they provided the enormous ſum of upwards of 70,000l. ſterling; and to go to Europe, to make the purchaſe and take the command of them, they appointed a gentleman, Commodore Gillon, who, beſides his being an able ſeaman, poſſeſſed bravery and talents. Indigo was purchaſed and ſhipped to France for that purpoſe; but a misfortune ſoon preſented itſelf, which proved the ſource of all the embarraſſments which that gentleman had to contend with in Europe, and of all the trouble and expence afterwards attending the frigate South-Carolina.

The veſſel in which a great part of the indigo was ſhipped, was manned with Britiſh ſeamen, picked up as they could be got in our neceſſity; they mutinied at ſea and the veſſel and cargo, which they conducted into England, was the reward of their treachery, under Britiſh encouragement. Congreſs, about the commencement of the war, by way of retaliation, gave a ſimilar incentive to Britiſh ſeamen to run away with Britiſh Weſt-India ſhips, into the ports of the Continent, which they often did, and relieved our wants of Weſt-India produce. Deſtitute of ſeamen we were obliged to employ men whoſe perfidiouſneſs was felt by their friends and enemies. I mention it as a ſpecimen of the honeſt *frankneſs* and *integrity* of Britiſh tars, often boaſted of.

Commodore Gillon met with every difficulty and embarraſſment. It became impracticable for him to execute his commiſſion fully; but well knowing the fervent zeal and expectation of the country he ſerved, reſpecting the buſineſs he came upon, he determined to procure and equip a veſſel of force. As he was deſtitute of the reſources ſufficient for the purchaſe, and as the credit of a State, liable to the calamities of a deſperate war, muſt have been at a low ebb, an honorable member now of the Senate (Mr. Izard) being then in Europe, warm with a patriotic zeal to promote the ſervice of his country, advanced his perſonal credit, which Commodore Gillon alſo did, for the purchaſe and equipment of the frigate South-Carolina. Thoſe gentlemen, at that day, not only believed they were taking a meaſure which would be acceptable to their countrymen, but they thought they were doing what was wiſe and expedient for the public ſervice, or they never would have embarked their private fortunes in it as they did. The ſhip putting to ſea made ſeveral prizes, and ſo far performed ſervice by diſtreſſing the common enemy. At the Havannah ſhe was employed by the Spaniſh government to cover the expedition againſt New-Providence, a place which the Commodore his officers and crew were chiefly inſtrumental in reducing. Any profit ariſing from thoſe ſervices we are willing to account for.

So the buſineſs of that frigate had its ſource in the generous breaſts of our countrymen, in their honeſt warm fervor, for the liberties and independence of the United States.

In order to put arms into the hands of our citizens, to ſupply cloathing, powder, and other military ſtores, to put us on a footing with our enemy, ſhould they again invade us, and to redeem us from the miſerable defenceleſs ſituation we were plunged in in the beginning of 1778.

Mr. Burke added a few other obſervations, and concluded by apologizing to the committee for having treſpaſſed on their time. He had other things to advance, but would ſtop for the preſent, and reſerve himſelf for another occaſion to ſhew the policy and juſtice of aſſuming the State debts.

Mr. Jackſon replied to Mr. Bland and Mr. Burke. Although he conceived the ſubject matter, reſpecting Georgia, foreign to the point before the committee, yet, as it had been brought forward, he thought himſelf called on to perform his duty by a reply.

The gentleman (Mr. Bland) had declared Georgia to have ſucked the life's blood of Virginia, but that ſhe had not acted as a dutiful child in return. He did not know that Georgia was to do as ſhe was bid; but admitting the force of what the gentleman had advanced, and that Virginia was the mother of Georgia, ſtill Georgia could not be called an undutiful daughter; for the repreſentatives of the State of Georgia were of the ſame opinion with the body of the repreſentatives of Virginia, on the ſubject of the aſſumption of the State debts.

The gentleman had brought forward eſtimates of debts and the loſſes of their reſpective States. If the loſſes of Georgia were to be compared, thoſe of Virginia, or any other State, would be comparatively ſmall. Not to enumerate others, the loſſes of the whole crops of rice, indigo, and corn, &c. of that State for the years 1778, 1779, 1780, 1781, and 1782, would far overbalance any eſtimate which could be produced; and the loſs of ſo many crops was an inſtance which could not be equalled by any State in the union.

Mr. Jackſon then added a few words in reply to Mr. Burke, and concluded by obſerving that he was ſtill againſt the aſſumption, nor did he think the houſe bound for it; the exertions of the different States has been unequal; the houſe had only pledged itſelf for a proviſion for the debts of the union, and that he hoped would take place. *To be continued.*

FOR THE GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES.

MR. FENNO,

AMONG *the various phænomena which now and then make their appearance, none has ever ſtruck my mind ſo forcibly as the preſent political phænomenon which the* rejection *of the ASSUMPTION exhibits. Could any thing add to the aſtoniſhment which it has excited, it would be the very extraordinary reaſons which oſtenſibly occaſioned it.*

Had a ſtate demagogue, apprehenſive of loſing his influence in a ſtate aſſembly, endeavored to alarm the members with the terrors of a too-powerful Congreſs, and to perſuade them that the public welfare depended upon exalting the ſtate legiſlatures and depreſſing the national one, while we pitied the weakneſs of perſons who were biaſſed by ſuch reaſoning, we ſhould not be ſurpriſed at finding it employed by thoſe whoſe purpoſes it anſwered; but that ſimilar arguments ſhould be adduced in a certain great aſſembly, by gentlemen ſpecially appointed to adminiſter the national government, ſelected for that purpoſe from the maſs of the people, and under the obligation of every ſacred tie to protect it againſt every attack which might prevent its operating for the general good, is to me moſt unaccountable. Are there not in the ſeveral States men in abundance whoſe expectations are confined to a ſeat in the ſtate legiſlature, and who for that reaſon alone will gladly embrace every opportunity of thwarting the meaſures of the general government? Are there not in every part of the continent enemies to the Conſtitution who will eagerly graſp at every occurrence which may turn to their advantage? Nay, are there not in the very boſom of this country, men who deteſt the American people, who ſicken at the ſight of our growing proſperity, whoſe breaſts ſtill rankle with diſappointment, and rage at our glorious independence, and who yet remember that we were once part of the Britiſh empire? Is it forgotton that we are encompaſſed with foes, that Great Britain holds our poſts and refuſes to deliver them up; that her civil officers are now making encroachments on our frontiers, and violating the rights of juriſdiction of a reſpectable ſtate; that while we may be involved in hoſtilities in the North and in the Eaſt, in conſequence of theſe proceedings, a very gloomy and lowering atmoſphere preſents itſelf to the South, and to the Weſt—is not the ſituation of Georgia alone ſufficient to arouſe our attention and excite our alarms? Embroiled with the Creeks in a fierce and vindictive war, not likely to termin ate but by the deſtruction of one or the other people—ſhe is now embroiling herſelf with her Britiſh creditors, whoſe debts ſhe confiſcated during the war by a law which had been long obſolete, but which has been recently called into active operation, and ſhould Great Britain conſider this an infraction of the treaty, the conſequences may be readily anticipated; what then will be the deplorable ſituation of that unfortunate ſtate? Attacked in the rear by the Creeks, (who it is well known are ſupported by Spain) her veſſels and produce ſeized in the ports of Great-Britain in retaliation for the confiſcation of the debts due to its ſubjects; She will loudly call on Congreſs for protection, and protection ſhe will undoubtedly be entitled to: Should Congreſs withhold it, Georgia muſt be utterly and compleatly ruined: Should Congreſs afford it, we are immediately involved in a war with Great Britain, Spain, and the Creeks. Theſe are ſerious conſiderations, and ſhould make ſome impreſſion on the minds of our civil rulers! What aſſiſtance are we to expect from abroad? None: Our allies are not in a condition to afford us any: We muſt depend on our own ſtrength alone; but what will that avail, diſunited as we are, pulling in different directions, and tearing the machine to pieces, inſtead of drawing it forward! Nor is this all we have to contend with, the ſituation of Rhode Iſland, tho in itſelf not very alarming, yet, as connected with other circumſtances, may well juſtify diſagreeable apprehenſions. The enmity of that State will conſiderably injure the revenue: She will be a neſt of ſmugglers: Her poſition is admirably calculated to enſure wealth and ſafety to thoſe who may engage in that profitable ſpeculation, and the precautions which the government may reſort to for the protection of the revenue will probably coſt a larger ſum than will be obtained from them.

Such being then the precarioufneſs of our ſituation, having ample cauſe of uneaſineſs from a view of the North Weſtern poſts, the contentions about the Eaſtern limits, Vermont, the Weſtern country, the Indians in every quarter, and the Creek nation more particularly, Rhode Iſland, the Britiſh and Spaniſh empires, and the commotions in Georgia, each of which ought alone to cauſe ſome anxiety; but all of which combined ſhould excite the greateſt apprehenſions, and promote the utmoſt harmony in the government, having nothing to depend on but our own reſources, which will be ineffectual without unanimity: Ought we not to execrate thoſe, who under the ſanctified garb of liberty are ſowing the ſeeds of diſ-union, that we may become a prey to the firſt invader.

Say, my fellow citizens, is this a time to cripple the national government when all its ſtrength is neceſſary for our protection? Is this what you expected from thoſe who were delegated to adminiſter it? At a time when a hoſt of ſurrounding dangers ſhould preſs the States into the moſt compact union, would he be your friend who ſhould promote diſunion, and anarchy, by warning the States to be jealous of the government, to ſuſpect its motions, to arreſt its progreſs, and to ſtrip it of its ſtrength and reſources? Say rather, ſuch a man would be wholly ſwayed by ſome little grovelling intereſt, inſtead of expanding his mind to embrace the great objects of the federal government: He would be hankering after popularity at home, frightened at the ſhadow of ſome ſtate demagogue, and ſecuring another election by gratifying the ſtate prejudices of a few conſtituents, whoſe ſituation diſqualified them from foreſeeing the miſeries attendant on a vote at which their ignorance might induce them to rejoice.

I ſincerely hope my fears are imaginary, and that there is not in our councils any perſon of that deſcription. Should however any ſuch perſon offer himſelf to you as a candidate at the approaching election, tell him my fellow citizens, that his mind is too little, his nerves too weak, his ideas too contracted, his views too narrow, to juſtify your placing him in the great council of the nation; adviſe him to confine his abilities to the little circle of a corporation, or at furtheſt to a ſtate aſſembly, where he may give full ſcope to his rhetorical powers, and pleaſe all his conſtituents, without doing any injury to the other States: Should he however by the ſmoothneſs of his tongue, and the plauſibility of his manners overcome your repugnance, or ſhould your vanity be gratified in being repreſeneed by a man of brilliant talents, remember that you will be anſwerable for all the conſequences; and he aſſured, that notwithſtanding a man may be poſſeſſed of ſplendid abilities or extraordinary eloquence, yet if he carries into queſtions contemplate the good of the whole, ſuch a man will be a curſe to the people, and his abilities and eloquence will only contribute to make him more dangerous than he otherwiſe would be.

I have been drawn into theſe obſervations by a conſideration of the preſent awful criſis, which threatens the very exiſtence of a government which was the laſt refuge of the American patriot, and which has ſcarcely commenced its career. The violent diviſion in the H. of R. on a great national queſtion, which has been once decided in the affirmative, and once in the negative by ſmall majorities, and the uncertainty of the ultimate deciſion are circumſtances which muſt depreſs the ſpirits of our friends, while they preſent a ſubject of joy to our enemies. Let us however hope that while there appears (from the debates which have been publiſhed) ſo much juſtice, policy, fairneſs, equity, liberality, and federaliſm on one ſide, and ſo much ſtate intereſt, partiality and injuſtice on the other, that the reaſon, good ſenſe, and virtue of the majority will triumph, and that ſome plan of accommodation will be deviſed, which at the ſame time that it will remove any real objection which might have embarraſſed the meaſure, will reſtore harmony to the States, and lay the foundation of public credit and national proſperity. A FRIEND TO THE UNION.

FOR THE GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES.

MR. FENNO,

I ſend you the extract of a letter, which you will publiſh, containing a more particular and authentic account than has hitherto appeared of the

REVOLUTION IN THE BELGIC STATES.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in Bruſſels, to his correſpondent in New-York, dated Dec. 25, 1789.

YOU are ſenſible Sir that bickerings and diſputes have ariſen and ſubſiſted for ſeveral years between the Belgic provinces and the emperor, which in the year 1787 induced the people to arm and diſcipline themſelves under the title of volunteers; and in one inſtance they came to blows with the emperor's troops; ſeveral people were killed in the grand place in this city, and the patriots were quelled for the moment; their affairs were not ripe.

The beginning of laſt ſummer, their leader, Mr. Vandernoot, and the committee of the provinces aſſembled in the Barony of Breda, where their deliberations could not be interrupted by the Auſtrian government, and from this place they correſponded with the patriots in the different provinces. They collected as many men as poſſible to form an army, but in ſo ſecret a manner did they conduct their buſineſs, that the government gave no credit to the accounts which were daily circulated through the country, they affected to call them the army in the moon; the army imaginaire, and however this army in the moon defended and ſurprized the fort of Lillo, where they found a few cannon and ſome ſmall arms; the panic of the government was inſtantly viſible, the gates of Bruſſels were ſhut, the inhabitants diſarmed, 60 perſons of the firſt rank and conſequence impriſoned, all clubs and ſocieties prohibited from meeting, and the ſtreets broken up to form barriers and ditches all over the city; the cannon were placed upon the ramparts, and the garriſon conſiſting of more than five thouſand men conſtantly employed in repairing the works, and four thouſand men collected from the different poſts formed a flying camp, and marched up and down the country, under the command of General Schroeder.

Thus we continued ſeveral weeks, till at laſt Schroeder entered the ſmall town of Tournhout, without having duly examined it, and was attacked from all ſides, from the cellars, the windows, the roofs, from mills and from churches by the inhabitants: He loſt 600 men and five pieces of cannon, and was himſelf wounded. He made a ſhameful retreat or rather flight, and notwithſtanding the hurry, ſo alert were his ſoldiers at pillage, they plundered ſeveral houſes, where they maſſacred the inhabitants men, women and children, to the number of 40, which was nearly all that fell on the ſide of the patriots.

After this defeat they marched to Ghent and joined the garriſon under the command of General D'Arbery, where a terrible ſcene was exhibited, but as you will ſee it detailed in the pamphlet, I ſhall paſs it over with only ſaying I believe that account to be very juſt, and come to the affair of Bruſſels, of which I have been a witneſs.

Whether from a conviction in the government that they were purſuing a wrong mode with the people, or whether it was in conſequence of orders from Vienna is not known, but the beginning of this month the gates were ſet open, the people were informed their arms would be returned upon application, (few however applied) and this was followed by the removal of the barriers and the diſcharge of the 60 perſons who had been confined.

The people were exaſperated to madneſs by the inſolence of the ſoldiery, which was neither checked nor puniſhed by Dalton, who commanded them, he had given out that he was provided for a three months ſiege, and that he was determined to ſuſtain it, and if at laſt he ſhould be obliged to leave the place, he would yield it to plunder and reduce it to aſhes; nothing better could be expected from this ſavage, who ſome years ago commanded in Wallachia, where he deſtroyed the poor wretches without mercy, and hung ſome hundreds of the firſt nobility; in one inſtance thirty at a time upon the ſame tree, without any form or proceſs; for this and other proofs of his ferocity he was ſent here to ſupercede General Murray who old Kaunitz thought was too mild: but as cowardice is the inſeparable companion of cruelty, Mr. Dalton has proved that he poſſeſſed the one in as great a degree as the other, as will appear from what I ſhall add, which you may depend upon being the real truth of the matter: When the government began to relax in their ſeverities, to open the gates, remove the barriers, return the arms and releaſe the priſoners, to publiſh humiliating placarts two or three in a day; the people perceived that they had found their miſtake, and were actually afraid of the conſequences, and thoſe meaſures inſtead of having the effect expected, operated quite differently upon the people, they ſerved to convince them of the weakneſs and fear of the government, and gave them a proper idea of their own ſtrength, and this added to what they felt before prepared them for the event which was to follow.

It is uſual on Thurſdays to perform grand maſs at the principal church called St. Gudule, and moſt of the city go there on that day to perform their devotions; it happened the tenth of December was Thurſday, and after maſs a perſon took a cockade from his pocket, and putting it upon a ſtick held it up to the people, they took the hint, it ſpread like wildfire, and before night not a perſon was to be ſeen without one. However every thing remained quiet, Dalton fired his alarm guns, and put his troops under arms, and thus they continued till four o'clock next day, when the people aſſembled from all quarters to take two pieces of cannon from the main guard, which was on the grand place, this guard conſiſted of 100 men under the command of a captain and two ſubs—there are ſeven ſtreets that come into the grand place, the patriots had by this time collected about two hundred people armed, but without order or command, and at five o'clock the attack commenced, the two pieces of cannon were played alternately at each of thoſe ſeven ſtreets, not with grape or any thing that is uſual, but with rivits, nails, old iron, broken bottles, &c. &c. and the ſoldiers fired much the ſame ſtuff from their muſkets, which is proved by the cartridges found in their boxes, many of which I have ſeen. The firing continued ſeven hours without a moments intermiſſion, when Dalton having made a truce with the Baron Vanderhagen (who was called upon during the night by the patriots to command them) for the purpoſe, ſent three hundred men to bring off the guard, which they did about two o'clock in the morning, the firing then ceaſed and all things were quiet.—About 10 o'clock the 12th, Dalton having drawn all his troops together upon the ſquare called the place Royale, propoſed to quit the town, provided the Patriots, who were now preparing to attack him, would engage to let him depart in peace, but while his officers were negociating with Mr. Vanderhagen and the committee, the panic came ſtronger upon him, and he went off ſuddenly towards Namur, ſo that when the officers returned to the place Royale they found it void; and as ſoon as the troops paſſed the gate the deſertions commenced, and before the next night one half of his army were returned to Bruſſels who were kindly received.—Thus ended all the threats of *Richard Sans Peur*, which name his pariſites had given him; the remains of his army about 12,00 men moſtly Germans got to Luxembourg but he withdrew

himself privately on the road and has not been heard of since.—So precipitate was his flight that he left in the Caisse Militaire two millions of florins in money, in the Tresor Royal three millions, twelve pieces of heavy brass artillery, twenty light pieces, arms and accoutrements for 20 thousand men, cloathing for 30 thousand, and an immense quantity of flour, and other provision, ammunition and forage, altogether, to the amount of about a million sterling; besides this they took a great quantity of the like articles at Ghent, at Malines where was the grand Arsenal, at Mons, at Namur, and at Louvaine, so that they are provided with all that is necessary to cloath and arm sixty thousand men, which they are raising; the province of Flanders has already completed its quota, which is 20,900. Brabant has made much progress, its quota is 17,000, so that the other seven provinces, to wit, Hainault, Luxembourg, Limbourg, Guildres, Namur, Marquisite of Antwerp, and Malines, have only 23000 to furnish among them, and such is the population of this country, and so roused are the people by injuries already felt, and by the apprehension of what they must suffer should they once again fall under the dominion of the House of Austria, that they find no difficulty in picking their men. The deserters from the Imperial army (mostly born in the low countries) give great assistance in disciplining and instructing the recruits; they have a General Mr. VANDERMERSCHE who, tho I do not think him a WASHINGTON, has a good character, and much merit; he is disinterested, cool, cautious, and brave, and about the age of 65 years. He has seen service, and his conduct since he has had the command of the Patriot Army, shews, that he can act either with the vivacity of a Frenchman, or the mill-horse motion of a German.

From this state of their affairs, it should seem there is small prospect of those provinces ever coming again under the Austrian yoke, even should England, Prussia, and Holland not lend them assistance.

But instead of those powers remaining idle spectators, they are expected to declare for them as soon as they are in entire possession of the country, that is to say when they have gained the possession of the Citadel of Antwerp, and the fortress of Luxembourg, this opinion is very general, from a belief that England and Holland have furnished the money which was necessary for the business, and of which they have had such supplies as to enable them to pay down for every thing they have had, as well as paying their army regularly ten-pence sterling per day.

What commercial advantages will arise to America from this revolution, it is not easy to point out at present, but I think one may expect them to be considerable, the consumption of rice, indigo, tobacco, flaxseed, timber, &c. is very considerable, and their manufactures of coarse woolens and linnens, their silks, satins, laces, &c. will be afforded cheaper than from France or England, and consequently a good exchange.

The inhabitants in general look up to America with veneration and respect; they consider her struggle and success as the first cause of the revolution in France, and of the recovery of their own liberty, consequently not only the states but the merchants, manufacturers, &c. in their individual capacities will receive with open arms any proposals which Congress may think proper to make. However I am but poorly qualified to judge what will or will not contribute to the advantage of nations."

FOR THE GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES.

MR. FENNO,

Please to publish the enclosed beautiful Extract of Dr. PRICE's *Revolution Sermon, and oblige yours, S. B.*

WHAT an eventful period is this? I am thankful that I have lived to it; and I could almost say "Lord now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, for mine eyes have seen thy salvation." I have lived to see a diffusion of knowledge which has undermined superstition and error—I have lived to see the rights of man better understood than ever; and nations panting for liberty, which seemed to have lost the idea of it. I have lived to see thirty-millions of people, indignant, and resolute, spurning at slavery, and demanding liberty with irresistable voice; their King led in triumph, and an arbitrary monarch surrendering himself to his subjects: after sharing in the benefits of one revolu tion, I have been spared to be a witness to two other revolutions, both glorious. And now methinks I see the ardor for liberty, catching and spreading: a general amendment, beginning in human affairs: the dominion of Kings, changed for the dominion of Laws, and the dominion of Priests giving way to the dominion of reason and conscience.—"Be encouraged all ye friends of freedom, and writers in its defence! The times are auspicious. Your labours have not been in vain. Behold Kingdoms admonished by you, starting from sleep, breaking their fetters, and claiming justice from their oppressors? Behold the light you have struck out after setting America free, reflected to France, and then kindled into a blaze that lays despotism in ashes and warms and illuminates all Europe.—"Tremble all ye oppressors of the world! Take warning, all ye supporters of slavish government, and slavish hierachies! Call no more (absurdly and wickedly) reformation, innovation. You cannot now hold the world in darkness. Struggle no longer against increasing light and liberality. Restore to mankind their rights; and consent to the correction of abuses, before they and you are destroyed together."

SUPPRESSION OF AMBASSADORS, &c.

MANY suppressions have already been made—but there remains a great many more to make, and one of the most considerable is the article of AMBASSADORS, ENVOYS, CONSULS, &c. those decorated spies—those priests of commerce who delight in shackling trade, in order to make themselves important at the expense of THREE MILLIONS yearly.

Consuls may indeed be necessary to a quarrelsome Minister—who strives to extend his influence in every realm, by indirect measures; but a free country, as happily situated as France is, requires not those shameful means to acquire a great degree of prosperity. The French government, for the future, under the inspection of the nation, will not busy itself in crossing the objects of other powers, to occasion quarrels. No—no other intercourses will exist than those of commerce and amity; but to preserve these relations, it will not be necessary to keep, at a great expense those DECORATED SPIES. SPIES are the necessary valets of corrupted Ministers.—The Ministers of a free people ought to be pure. SPIES are never necessary but in war—and as the spirit of Liberty diffuses itself among nations—there will be no more wars. Who occasion wars? Ambassadors, and a number of quilldrivers disguised into Consuls, by their intrigues, and concussions. It is always by disseminating the seeds of discord, that they increase their importance.

It has been said, that they are necessary in countries where there are merchants or travellers of their nation. But now that every nation has good and safe laws—and the rights of strangers are every where respected—such a protection is too abusive to continue it any longer.

The above is translated from a French paper entitled, "THE FRENCH PATRIOT."——*By* M. DE WARVILLE.

LONDON, *February* 3.

The COMMISSIONERS of the NATIONAL DEBT received the report of its liquidation on Saturday last at MR. PITT's, when it appeared that their broker had bought as follows:—

LAST QUARTER

	Capital.	*Sums paid.*		
Consols	45,200	35,299	12	6
Reduced	207,300	161,589	12	6
Old S. Sea	70,500	54,646	2	6
New S. Sea	40,500	31,490	10	0
3 per C. 1751	8,700	6,774	2	6
Total.	372,200	289,800	0	0

TOTAL AMOUNT.

	Capital.	*Sums paid.*		
Consols	2,162,550	1,618,761	9	4
Reduced	1,238,300	938,156	7	0
Old S. Sea	913,900	687,513	15	0
New S. Sea	665,300	501,065	16	3
3 per C. 1751	204,800	153,008	2	6
Total	5,184,850	3,898,505	10	1

CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 1790.

On the question whether the House should resolve itself into a committee of the whole on the report of the Secretary of the Treasury, for the support of the public credit.—The ayes and noes being demanded, are as follows,

AYES

Messrs. Ashe, Baldwin, Brown, Carrol, Clymer, Coles, Contee, Fitzsimons, Floyd, Gale, Griffin, Hartley, Hathorne, Heister, Jackson, Lawrance, Lee, Madison, Matthews, Moore, Muhlenberg, Page, Parker, Van Ranssellaer, Scott, Seney, Sinnickson, Smith, (M) Sumpter, Tucker, White, Williamson, Wynkoop. 33.

NAYS

Messrs. Ames, Benson, Bland, Bloodworth, Bondinot, Burke, Foster, Gerry, Gilman, Goodhue, Grout, Huntington, Leonard, Livermore, Partridge, Sherman, Sylvester, Smith, (S. C.) Sturges, Thatcher, Trumbull, Vining, Wadsworth. 23.

MONDAY, APRIL 19.

Hon. John Steele; member from the state of North-Carolina appeared and took his seat this day.—

The bill providing for the punishments of certain crimes against the United States, having been returned to the Senate with sundry amendments, and some of those amendments having been amended by the Senate—the House this day concurred with the Senate—which compleated the bill preparatory to its enrolment.—

The report of the Secretary of the Treasury on the memorial of the Baron Steuben was read a second time—this report is lengthy—the reading and discussion employed the attention of the House this day—the result was the adoption of a motion introduced by Mr. Gerry in substance as follows,—That a committee be appointed to report a bill, or resolutions in conformity to the report of the Secretary of the Treasury—the committee appointed consists of Mr. Gerry, Mr. Wadsworth, Mr. Vining, Mr. Lawrance and Mr. Smith, (S. C.)

Adjourned.

TUESDAY, APRIL 20.

A committee consisting of Mr. Fitzsimons, Mr. Williamson Mr. Smith (Maryland) Mr. Schureman and Mr. Sturges, was appointed to ascertain what further measures are necessary to be adopted to effect a speedy settlement of accounts between the United States and individual States—and to report to the House.—

In committee of the whole—on the report of the Secretary of the Treasury—for the support of the public credit.—

The proposition to fund two thirds of the debt at 6 per. cent. per. annum—and to receive the other third in lands was read.—

Mr. GERRY after premising, that as the committee were on the ground of non-assumption, they could not with propriety in his opinion, engage to pay 6, 5 or even 4 per cent. on ⅔ of the debt, moved that 6 per cent. be struck out in order to admit a less rate of interest. This motion was supported by Mr. Smith (S. C.) and opposed by Mr. Jackson, Mr. Fitzsimons, Mr. Madison, and Mr. White; the question being taken, the motion was lost—and the proposition agreed to.

The second alternative, which had been rejected, was now acceded to, viz.

To have the whole sum funded at a yearly interest of 4 per cent. irredeemable by any payment exceeding five dollars per annum on account both of principal and interest; and to receive as a compensation for the reduction of interest fifteen dollars and eighty cents, funded at the like interest and rate of redemption.—The committee rose and the House adjourned.

PITTSBURGH, March 27.

As the spring approaches the Indians begin to commit depredations: From good authority we understand, that a few weeks since a small settlement, consisting of between twenty and thirty persons, about fourteen miles on this side Limestone, were entirely cut off, by a party of indians.

BOSTON, April 10.

SHIP BUILDING.

It is said, that orders have been received here for building several large ships. One merchant we hear, is now in treaty with the Ship Carpenters, for building a vessel of 900 tons. A Merchant in Salem, we learn, is building a vessel of 1100 tons; and in Philadelphia, accounts say, there are now twenty-two ships on the stocks, and all above 240 tons burthen.

NEW-YORK, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21.

Extract of a Letter from the Eastward, dated April 6, 1790

I never considered the national government as being more than half established by the *nominal* acceptance of the form—to take from our newspapers the metaphor they have used, it was an arch, but to me the key-stone was wanting—the actual exercise of certain powers to the exclusion of the states would be finishing the work—till this takes place I cannot think the country completely safe from the danger of disunion, and consequent anarchy and wretchedness.

I am no holder of public securities of any kind, but I consider the assumption of all our state debts as so essential, that as an individual I would rather pay a four-fold interest thro the national government, than an half per cent. thro the medium of the state—because the former *may* give us protection, the latter *cannot*. I confess to you however, that I am still indulging myself in the pleasing idea that you will succeed in this point, in the present session—and if you do, I shall think that the government has done every thing its most sanguine friends, and every honest patriot could have wished—if you fail, there certainly is reason to apprehend a long and hard contest with the state governments for *power*.

A Correspondent says that during the last session of Congress, many persons were uneasy at the slow progress made in public business; more especially in respect to the revenue system—but notwithstanding all the care and attention paid to the subject—some mistakes took place, and provision has been made to remedy them: That more errors did not get incorporated in the system, is more to be wondered at, than that any are found to be corrected, and this cannot be justly attributed to any cause with propriety, but to that slowness in investigation, that caution in decision, and that great attention which was paid to every part of the business; and which could not have been the case without a great expense of time—but this expense is commonly the least, and conduces to economy in the issue.

The important subject of funding has long engaged the attention of the House of Representatives of the union: A greater concern cannot possibly come before them—innumerable difficulties obstruct the progress of the business—the novelty of the work, the diversity of interests and the relative situation of the several states, all conspire to render the task arduous, and point out the propriety of making every decision the result of a calm and patient investigation of truth. In this way a system may be formed which will be found on trial to stand the test.

A correspondent observes, the only way to form a just judgment on the business of assumption is for the assumptionists to place themselves in the situation of the non assumptionists—there can be no doubt that South-Carolina and Massachusetts would in that case be as much opposed to the measure as Virginia, Maryland &c. are.—

A correspodent would enquire, whether the controversy respecting the assumption of the state debts is not a controversy between creditors and debtors—or rather between the non assumptionists and the speculators in state paper?—and whether in the first case the plea of the delinquent states can be called a plea of justice with respect to those states which have paid their debts?—or in the latter case, whether it is worth while to risque the tranquility of the union to please the speculators?—which would probably be the case by assuming, *unknown millions*.—

Another correspondent observes, the peace and tranquility which now pervade the United States afford the most favourable opportunity to our civil rulers, for laying the foundations of the government broad and deep.—It may safely be said that there is not a government upon earth so universally acceptable to the people as that of the United States,—Now is the time then to establish our credit, that "Key-Stone of the arch of our political existence."—If the present moment of our salvation is suffered to pass away, unimproved, we have every evil to anticipate, for the time may come when the people "*will not bear sound doctrine,*" *in politics*—and "are there not already many false teachers abroad in the world?"—

THE following persons are recommended to the free electors of the city and county of New-York as worthy of their suffrages at the ensuing election, BY MANY ELECTORS.

For Representative to Congress,

JOHN LAWRANCE.

For Senators,

David Gelston, Peter Lefferts, Philip Van Cortlandt, Samuel Jones.

Assembly.

John Watts, William W. Gilbert, Robert Randall, John Campbell, James Watson, Nicholas Cruger, Henry Will, Cornelius J. Bogert, John Pintard.

ARRIVALS SINCE OUR LAST.——NEW-YORK.

Brig Liberty, Juerin, Halifax, at Sandy-Hook, 4 days.
Sloop Sally, Thomas, St. Johns, (N. B.) 7 days.

The following REPORT was received in the House of Representatives, on the 15th instant, from the SECRETARY OF STATE.

THE Secretary of State to whom was referred by the house of Representatives, the letter of John H. Mitchell, reciting certain proposals for supplying the United States with copper coinage, has had the same under consideration, according to instructions, and begs leave to report thereon as follows:

The person who wishes to undertake the supply of a copper coinage sets forth that the superiority of his apparatus and process for coining, enables him to furnish a coinage, better and cheaper than can be done by any country or person whatever: that his dies are engraved by the first artist in that line in Europe; that his apparatus for striking the edge, at the same blow with the faces, is new and singularly ingenious: that he coins by a press on a new principle, and worked by a fire engine more regularly than can be done by hand; that he will deliver any quantity of coin, of any size and device, of pure unalloyed copper, wrapped in paper, and packed in casks, ready for shipping, at fourteen pence sterling the pound.

The Secretary of State has before been apprised, from other sources of information, of the great improvements made by this undertaker in sundry arts: he is acquainted with the artist who invented the method of striking the edge and both faces of the coin at one blow: he has seen his process and coins, and sent to the former Congress some specimens of them, with certain offers from him before he entered into the service of the present undertaker (which specimens he takes the liberty of now submitting to the inspection of the house, as proofs of the superiority of this method of coinage in gold and silver, as well as copper.)

He is therefore of opinion, that the undertaker, aided by that artist, and by his own excellent machines, is truly in a condition to furnish coin in a state of higher perfection than has ever yet been issued by any nation: that perfection in the engraving is among the great safeguards against counterfeits, because engravers of the first class are few, and elevated, by their rank in their art, far above the base and dangerous business of counterfeiting. That the perfection of coins will indeed disappear, after they are for sometime worn among other pieces, and especially where the figures are rather faintly relieved as on those of this artist; yet their high finishing while new, is not the less a guard against counterfeits; because these if carried to any extent, must be ushered into circulation new also, and consequently may be compared with genuine coins in the same State: that therefore, whenever the United States shall be disposed to have a coin of their own, it will be desirable to aim at this kind of perfection: that this cannot be better effected than by availing themselves, if possible of the services of the undertaker and of this artist, whose excellent methods and machines are said to have abridged, as well as perfected the operations of coinage. These operations, however, and their expence being new and unknown here, he is unable to say whether the price proposed be reasonable or not. He is also uncertain whether, instead of the larger copper coin, the Legislature might not prefer a lighter one of billon, or mixed metal, as is practised with convenience by several other nations, a specimen of which kind of coinage is submitted to their inspection.

But the propositions under consideration, suppose that the work is to be carried on in a foreign country, and that the implements are to remain the property of the undertaker; which conditions, in his opinion, render them inadmissible, for these reasons—

Coinage is peculiarly an attribute of sovereignty; to transfer its exercise into another country, is to submit it to another sovereign.

Its transportation across the ocean, besides the ordinary dangers of the sea, would expose it to acts of piracy by the crews to whom it would be confided, as well as by others apprised of its passage.

In the time of war it would offer to the enterprizes of an enemy, what has been emphatically called the sinews of war.

If the war were with the nation within whose territory the coinage is, the first act of war or reprisal might be to arrest this operation, with the implements and materials, coined and uncoined, to be used at their discretion.

The reputation and principles of the present undertaker are safeguards against the abuses of a coinage carried on in a foreign country, where no checks could be provided by the proper Sovereign, no regulations established, no police, no guard exercised; in short, none of the numerous cautions hitherto thought essential at every mint; but in hands less entitled to confidence, these will become dangers. We may be secured indeed, by proper experiments as to the purity of the coin delivered us according to contract, but we cannot be secured against that which, though less pure, shall be struck in the genuine dye, and protected against the vigilance of government till it shall have entered into circulation.

We lose the opportunity of calling in and recoining the clipped money in circulation, or we double our risks by a double transportation.

We lose in like manner, the resource of coining up our household plate in the instant of great distress.

We lose the means of forming artists to continue the works, when the common accidents of mortality shall have deprived us of those who began them.

In fine, the carrying on the coinage in a foreign country, as far as the Secretary knows, is without example; and general example is weighty authority.

He is therefore of opinion on the whole—

That a mint, whenever established, should be established at home: that the superiority, the merit, and means of the undertaker will suggest him as the proper person to be engaged in the establishment and conduct of a mint, on a scale, which, relinquishing nothing in the perfection of the coin, should be duly proportioned to our purposes.

And in the mean while he is of opinion, the present proposals should be declined. THOMAS JEFFERSON.

April 14, 1790.

FRANCE.

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.

JANUARY 28.

ON Monday, a deputaion from the militia of the district of *St. Roch*, gave an account at the bar, of the proceedings of the corps towards the uncle and the brother of the two *Agasses*, condemned to be executed for forging the notes of *Caisse D'Escompte*.

We have already mentioned that M. Agasse, the uncle, had been elected President of the district, by the generous ardour of his fellow citizens, to eradicate the absurd prejudice which attached the infamy of a capital punishment to the family of the criminal.

The battalion of St. Honore, in which he was enrolled, directed their commander to assure him in the name of the whole body, that they felt his affliction as their own; and that far from considering the crime of his nephews as fixing an indelible stigma on their family, they from that moment adopted their relations as brothers, to whom they vowed friendship, union, assistance, and all the sentiments which their virtue merited, rendered still more interesting by their misfortune.

The Brother they promoted to the rank of Lieutenant of Grenadiers as a mark of their esteem and affection.

To the relation of these particulars, the President replied that they had displayed more firmness and patriotism than the Assembly, in as much as, in correcting erroneous opinions, example was superior to law.

It was lately proposed, that the community of Paris should write circular letters, to request all the Municipalities to unite the several bodies of militia throughout the kingdom, under the command of the Marquis de la Fayette. This proposition the Marquis resisted, with the moderation that has uniformly marked his conduct. "Let us wait," said he, "the decision of the National Assembly respecting the National troops. Destined as they are for the defence of liberty, let us take care that the honor of commanding them affords no resource or pretext for ambition. As for me, when this article of our constitution comes to be agitated, I shall contend, that no citizen ought to command the National militia of more than one department."

The Directors of the Caisse d'Escompte have offered sixty thousand livres to the community of Paris, for the relief of the poor.

We have received no account of any existing or expected commotion in Paris, or in any other part of the kingdom. The reports of commotions, circulated here for some days past, may therefore be considered as entirely destitute of foundation.

The following are the precise words of the National decree in favor of the Jews:

"The National Assembly decrees that the Jews known in France under name of Portugueze, Spanish or Avignon Jews shall continue to enjoy all the rights of active citizens, as soon they shall have qualified themselves in the manner prescribed by the decrees of the Assembly already passed."

This resolution met with great opposition, but was carried by a majority of 360 votes against 225.

JANUARY 31.

On Friday a report was read from the Committee of Finance, proposing the coinage of two millions of marcs of money de BILLON, (copper with a small mixture of silver)—no person to be obliged to receive more than six livres of this money in one payment.

A report was also read from the same Committee, stating the reductions that may be made on the several heads of public expenditure. It stated, that the whole might be reduced from 287 to 193 millions of livres, allowing 84 millions for the expence of the army, and 18 for pensions.

The Assembly entered immediately on the proposed reductions by suppressing the establishments for breeding horses, which cost the public 974,000 livres a year, tended rather to injure than to improve the breed of horses.

On Saturday a decree was passed, ordering the taxes comprehended under the name of impositions direct to be levied for the year 1790, according to the ancient form.

James F. Sebor, and Co.

Have removed from No. 59, to No. 187, Water-Street, near the Fly-Market,

WHERE they negociate all kinds of PUBLICK SECURITIES—BILLS OF EXCHANGE. &c. as usual.

New-York, April 8, 1790. tf.

ADVERTISEMENT.

BY order of the honorable John Sloss Hobart Esquire, one of the Justices of the Supreme Court of Judicature of the State of New-York. Notice is hereby given to Paul Deyrell, now or late of Long Island, Esquire, an absconding debtor, and to all others whom it may concern; that upon application and due proof, made to the said Justice, pursuant to an act of the legislature, entitled "an act for relief against absconding and absent debtors," passed the fourth day of April, 1786, by a creditor of the said Paul Deyrell, he the said Justice has directed all his the said Paul Deyrell's Estate, real and personal, within this State, to be seized; and that unless he shall discharge his debts within three months after the publication of this notice; all his Estate real and personal will be sold for the payment and satisfaction of his creditors. Dated at the city of New-York, the twenty-seventh day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred nd ninety. *March* 31. 1aw3m.

To be SOLD,

For CERTIFICATES, Or *exchanged* for LAND,

TWENTY-Two acres of ground in the City of New-York, fronting Great George-Street, Bowry-Lane, and Greenwich-Lane. On the premises is a brick dwelling house containing ten rooms; a smaller brick house with four rooms; a house with a brick front with two rooms: In each house is a Kitchen, and under the whole four cellars; a never failing spring is near one of the kitchens; a frame stable and a coach-house with stables. From the dwelling house both the North and the East rivers are plain to the view. Additional improvements have been made this Spring, the ground has been laid out for pleasure as well as for utility; it is provided with variety of orchard and other fruit; part of the land has also been sown with timothy and clover. To be sold for certificates of the national debt, which will be received at the nominal value, Dollars at 8s. Or for good upland, even if covered with wood, provided it is situated on the following rivers, or on creeks as far as navigable, communicating with the same, viz. At the Potowmac above Alexandria, at James River above Richmond, in South-Carolina, about one hundred miles from the sea shore, on Santee Edisto or Ponpon river, or on Savannah river. If not sold at private sale before the 15th of May, it will then on the above terms be disposed of by Public Vendue at the merchants Coffee-House.—For further particulars enquire of Mr. POELLNITZ on the premises. *New-York April* 10, 1790.

PROPOSALS,

BY

JOHN TRUMBULL,

For publishing by subscription,

TWO PRINTS,

From *ORIGINAL PICTURES* painted by himself:

REPRESENTING

The DEATH of General WARREN,

At the Battle of Bunker's-Hill; and

The DEATH of General MONTGOMERY,

In the Attack of Quebec.

IN the Battle of Bunker's Hill, the following Portraits are introduced,

AMERICAN.	BRITISH.
Major General *Warren*,	General Sir *William Howe*,
Putnam,	Sir *Henry Clinton*,
	Lieut. Col. *John Small*,
	Major *Pitcairn*, and
	Lieut. *Pitcairn*.

In the Attack of Quebec, are seen,

General *Montgomery*,	Major *Macpherson*,
Colonel *Thompson*,	Captain *Cheesman*.

CONDITIONS of SUBSCRIPTION.

THE Prints will be engraved by two of the most eminent Artists in Europe. The size will be 30 inches by 20. The price to subscribers, three guineas for each print, one half to be paid at the time of subscribing, the remainder on the delivery of the Prints, which will be as soon as the work (which is already considerably advanced) can possibly be completed.

Subscriptions are received in America, only by Mr. Trumbull. All subscription receipts will be signed by him, as well as by Mr. Poggi, of London; under whose direction the prints are engraving, and will be published.

These Prints are the first of a series, in which it is proposed to represent the most important events of the American revolution.

No period of the history of man is more interesting than that in which we have lived.——The memory of scenes in which were laid the foundations of that free government, which secures our national and individual happiness, must remain ever dear to us, and to posterity; and if national pride be in any case justifiable, Americans have a right to glory in having given to the world an example, whose influence is rapidly spreading the love of freedom through other nations, and every where ameliorating the condition of men.

To assist in preserving the memory of the illustrious events which have marked this period of our country's glory, as well as of the men who have been the most important actors in them, is the object of this undertaking. Historians will do justice to an æra so important; but to be read, the language in which they write, must be understood—the language of Painting is universal, and intelligible in all nations, and every age.

As several years of his time, and a very considerable expence, are necessary to accomplish this undertaking, it would be an imprudent sacrifice to the mere hope of reputation, to go more deeply into it, without a probability of ultimate success. That he may judge of the degree of this probability, Mr. Trumbull, by the advice of his friends, proposes this subscription, and flatters himself with a hope of meeting that patronage from his countrymen, which will justify his pursuing the object with ardor, and without which it is impossible that so expensive a work should be continued.

The subjects proposed to be represented, in addition to the two foregoing, of Bunker's-Hill and Quebec, are

* *The* DECLARATION *of* INDEPENDENCE,
* BATTLE *at* TRENTON,
* BATTLE *of* PRINCETON,
SURRENDER *of General* BURGOYNE,
TREATY *with* FRANCE,
BATTLE *of* EUTAW SPRINGS,
* SURRENDER *of* YORK-TOWN,
TREATY *of* PEACE,
EVACUATION *of* NEW-YORK,
RESIGNATION *of General* WASHINGTON,
The ARCH *at* TRENTON;
INAUGURATION *of the* PRESIDENT *of the* UNITED STATES.

Each picture will contain Portraits of the principal characters, who were present at the scene represented. Those marked with Stars, are considerably advanced—and the Prints from the whole will be executed of the same size, and by the most eminent engravers.

New-York, April 2, 1790.

New-York City Lottery.

SCHEME of a LOTTERY, for the purpose of raising *Seven Thousand Five Hundred Pounds*, agreable to an ACT of the Legislature of the State of New-York, passed 8th February, 1790.

SCHEME.

1	PRIZE of	£.3000	£.3000
2		1000	2000
3		500	1500
10		200	2000
30		100	3000
50		50	2500
120		20	2400
180		10	1800
7950		4	31800

8346 Prizes, 16654 Blanks, } 25000 Tickets, at 40s. each, £.50000

Subject to a deduction of *Fifteen per Cent.*

THE object of this LOTTERY being to raise a part of the sum advanced by the corporation for repairing and enlarging the CITY HALL, for the accommodation of CONGRESS, which does so much honor to the Architect, as well as credit to the city. The managers presume that their fellow Citizens will cheerfully concur in promoting the sale of Tickets, especially as the success of this Lottery will relieve them from a tax, which must otherwise be laid to reimburse the corporation.

The above SCHEME is calculated in a manner very beneficial to adventurers, there not being two blanks to a prize.

The Lottery is intended to commence drawing on the FIRST MONDAY in AUGUST next, or sooner if filled, of which timely notice will be given. A list of the fortunate numbers will be published at the expiration of the drawing.

Tickets are to be sold by the subscribers, who are appointed Managers by the Corporation.

ISAAC STOUTENBURGH, ABRAHAM HERRING,
PETER T. CURTENIUS, JOHN PINTARD.

New-York, 6th March, 1790.

William Taylor,

Has for Sale, at his EAST-INDIA GOODS STORE, No. 4, BURLING-SLIP,

A General Assortment of EAST-INDIA GOODS.

Among which are the following Articles:

BOOK Muslins 8-4 6-4 5-4	HUMHUMS,
Jackonet do.	Long Cloths,
Hankerchiefs, of various kinds,	Cassas,
Chintzes,	Seersuckers,
Ginghams,	Boglapores.

CASH, and a generous price given for Continental, New-Hampshire, Massachusetts, and Rhode-Island securities, of every denomination, by

EBENEZER THAYER, jun. No. 59, *Water-Street*.

New-York, April 17, 1790.